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7 JUL 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF
STATE FOR RESEARCH AND INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GENERAL STAFF,
UNITED STATES ARMY
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, OFFICE OF DEPUTY
CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS, UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMISSION
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, JOINT INTELLIGENCE GROUP,
JOINT STAFF

Subject: Transliteration of Foreign Languages

1. As a result of the meetings of the interdepartmental working committee discussing the above subject, CIA has decided to put into effect now the results reached to date; without waiting for decisions on the less common languages.

2. Transliteration of Chinese will be by the Wade-Giles system, of Japanese by the Hepburn system, and of Korean by the Motune-Reischauer system.

3. Transliteration of Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Bulgarian, and Serbian will be in accordance with the enclosures.

4. Within CIA other systems for these languages will be abandoned, and it is hoped the IAC agencies can do likewise if other systems are now used. It is believed that this is agreeable to those in the agencies working on translations. If an agency has any comments on this matter, I shall be glad to receive them.

signed *plus via*
ER 7/7.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Enclosure: Adm Instruction 50-18

cc: Central Records
Signer's Copy

PC/mhb

Return to ICAPS ✓

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington, D. C.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION
NO. 50-18

27 June 1949

SUBJECT: Transliteration of Foreign Languages.

1. All personnel concerned with transliteration pertaining to Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Bulgarian, and Serbian will refer to the appropriate enclosures of this memorandum.
2. Transliteration of Chinese will be by the Wade-Giles system.
3. Transliteration of Japanese will be by the Hepburn system.
4. Transliteration of Korean will be by the McCune-Reischauer system.
5. Further instructions for other languages will be issued when appropriate transliteration systems have been approved.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:



Captain, USN
Executive

25X1

Enclosures: 6
A, B, C, D, E, F

DISTRIBUTION: A.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Enclosure A

TRANSLITERATION TABLE FOR THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

А а	a	Р р	r
Б б	b	С с	s
В в	v	Т т	t
Г г	g	У у	u
Д д	d	Ф ф	f
Е е	ye, e ¹	Х х	kh
Ж ж	zh	Ц ц	ts
З з	z	Ч ч	ch
И и	i	Ш ш	sh
Й й	y	Щ щ	shch
К к	k	Ъ ъ	"
Л л	l	Ы ы	y
М м	m	Ь ь	'
Н н	n	Э э	e
О о	o	Ю ю	yu
П п	p	Я я	ya

¹ye initially, after vowels, and after Ъ, Ь; e elsewhere;
when written as ѐ in Russian, transliterate as yě or ě.

Use of diacritical marks is preferred, but such marks
may be omitted when expediency dictates.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Enclosure B

TRANSLITERATION TABLE FOR THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

А а	a	Н н	n
Б б	b	О о	o
В в	v	П п	p
Г г	h	Р р	r
Ґ ґ	g	С с	s
Д д	d	Т т	t
Е е	e	У у	u
Є є	ye	Ф ф	f
Ж ж	zh	Х х	kh
З з	z	Ц ц	ts
И и	y	Ч ч	ch
І і	i	Ш ш	sh
Ї ї	i	Щ щ	shch
Й й	y	'	"
К к	k	Ь ь	'
Л л	l	Ю ю	yu
М м	m	Я я	ya

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Enclosure C

TRANSLITERATION TABLE FOR THE BELORUSSIAN LANGUAGE

А а	a	П п	p
Б б	b	Р р	r
В в	v	С с	s
Г г	h	Т т	t
Г' г'	g	У у	u
Д д	d	Ў ў	ũ
Е е	ye, e ¹	Ф ф	f
Ж ж	zh	Х х	kh
З з	z	Ц ц	ts
І і	i	Ч ч	ch
Й й	y	Ш ш	sh
К к	k	Ы ы	y
Л л	l	Ь ь	'
М м	m	Э э	e
Н н	n	Ю ю	yu
О о	o	Я я	ya

¹ye initially, after vowels, and after ь; e elsewhere;
when written as ё in Belorussian, transliterate as yë or ë.

Use of diacritical marks is preferred, but such marks
may be omitted when expediency dictates.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Enclosure D

TRANSLITERATION TABLE FOR THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

А а	а	П п	р
Б б	б	Р р	р
В в	в	С с	с
Г г	г	Т т	т
Д д	д	У у	у
Е е	е	Ф ф	ф
Ж ж	zh	Х х	kh
З з	з	Ц ц	tse
И и	и	Ч ч	ch
Й й	у	Ш ш	sh
К к	к	Щ щ	sht
Л л	л	Ъ ъ	ŭ
М м	м	Ь ь	'
Н н	н	Ю ю	yu
О о	о	Я я	ya

NOTE: This table is based on the spelling reform of 1945.
For certain obsolete letters found in older sources,
proceed as follows:

1. Final Ъ: omit.
2. Ъ, replaced by е or я, according to pronunciation: transliterate as e or ya, accordingly, if correct present spelling is known; otherwise, as ye.
3. Ж, replaced by ъ: transliterate as ŭ.

Use of diacritical marks is preferred, but such marks may be omitted when expediency dictates.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Enclosure E

TRANSLITERATION TABLE FOR THE SERBIAN LANGUAGE

Serbian	Croatian	Serbian	Croatian
A a	a	H h	n
B б	b	h b h b	nj
B в	v	O o	o
Г г	g	П п	p
Д д	d	P p	r
Ђ ђ	dj ¹	C c	s
E e	e	T t	t
Ж ж	ž	ћ ћ	ć
З з	z	У у	u
И и	i	Ф ф	f
Ј ј	j	X x	h
К к	k	Ц ц	c
Л л	l	Ч ч	č
Љ љ	lj	џ џ	dž
М м	m	Ш ш	š

¹Use this variant instead of đ

Use of diacritical marks is preferred, but such marks may be omitted when expediency dictates.

C O N F I D E N T I A L